

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 /051 R

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R 101712Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, AR

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE AIRWAYS CHARGES

1. PAN AM HAS COMPLAINED TO DEPT REGARDING ARGENTINA'S EN ROUTE AIR NAVIGATION FACILITY CHARGES, WHICH IT CLAIMS ARE CURRENTLY SECOND HIGHEST IN THE WORLD (APPROXIMATELY 50 CENTS PER STATUTE MILE). PAA STATES EVIDENCE GATHERED TO DATE, ALTHOUGH NOT CONCLUSIVE, INDICATES THIS CHARGE IS EXCESSIVE AND DOES NOT REFLECT ACTUAL COST OF SERVICES PROVIDED FOR AND USED BY INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES.

2. PAA MAKES FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) FOR A CARACAS-BUENOS AIRES FLIGHT, ARGENTINE RATE PER MILE IS 18 TIMES BRAZILIAN RATE WITH GREATER SERVICES PROVIDED BY BRAZIL. (VOLUME OF TRAFFIC USING BRAZILIAN AND ARGENTINE FACILITIES IS COMPARABLE THUS PROVIDING EQUIVALENT BASES OVER WHICH TO SPREAD COSTS.) (B) RECENT INSPECTION OF ARGENTINE AERONAUTICAL FIXED TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK AND EN ROUTE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL FACILITIES AT EZEIZA AIRPORT REVEALED THAT 1940/1950 VINTAGE EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS STILL IN USE. (C) ARGENTINE AERONAUTICAL AUTHORITIES HAVE NEVER PROVIDED INFORMATION REGARDING DETAILED COST OF FACILITIES

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AND SERVICES PROVIDED TO USERS INCLUDING BREAKDOWN OF

ALLOCATION BETWEEN CIVIL (DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL),
MILITARY AND GENERAL AVIATION. (D) UNVERIFIED INFORMATION
FROM ANOTHER MAJOR IATA CARRIER INDICATES THAT SOME

REVENUES FROM EN ROUTE CHARGES ARE USED TO SUBSIDIZE NON-
AVIATION ACTIVITIES AND REDUCE DEFICIT OF NATIONAL AIRLINE.

3. DURING RECENT ARGENTINE VISIT OF PAA OFFICIALS,
AVIATION AUTHORITIES REVEALED EN ROUTE CHARGES WOULD
SOON BE INCREASED TO COVER COST OF NEW FACILITIES. EMB
REQUESTED INVESTIGATE SITUATION REPORTED BY PAA AND
SUBMIT REPORT TO DEPT. PAA URGING DEPT TAKE UP PROBLEM
OF EN ROUTE CHARGES WHEN BILATERAL AIR TRANSPORT
NEGOTIATIONS RESUMED. RUSH

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